VZCZCXYZ0006 RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHSG #0682 2021714 ZNR UUUUU ZZH R 211714Z JUL 09 FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5242 INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 4080 RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 2493 RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 1593 RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 1012 RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 2178 RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA 6292 RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 4493 RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO 2502 RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 000682

SIPDIS

STATE FOR R/MR, I/PP, WHA/BSC, WHA/PDA, INR/IAA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KMDR KPAO PGOV ECON PREL SNAR EFIN CI SUBJECT: CHILE MEDIA REPORT - JULY 21

Leading Story

11. The recent murder of a youth by a teenager promoted a group of congressmen to submit a draft bill that would extend the civil responsibility of individuals 16 years or younger to their parents (El Mercurio, conservative, influential newspaper-of-record, 7/21).

Honduras

- 12. The de facto government of Roberto Micheletti is feeling the pressure of the 72-hour deadline set by Oscar Arias. Department of State spokesman Philip Crowley said Secretary Clinton had informed Micheletti on the consequences of failing to accept proposals to resolve the crisis in terms of aid and relations between Honduras and the United States. Crowley said the conversation had been "very harsh." The European Union has already cancelled US\$92 million worth in aid to Honduras. Official Costa Rican sources said Arias began a round of talks with the presidents in the region, including Bachelet and the United States, asking for assistance to pressure Micheletti (La Tercera, conservative, independent, 7/21).
- ¶3. As "pro tempore" president of the Union of South American Nations (UNSASUR) Bachelet said the international community must not accept any other solution to the crisis in Honduras other than the "reestablishment of rule of law" (La Tercera, 7/21).
- 14. OAS Secretary General Jose Miguel Insulza said Micheletti's decision to remain in power "could be costly" for the people of Honduras, because "it's almost impossible to ask for calm when a dictatorship, in everyone's view, tries to stay in power" (La Segunda, afternoon daily, 7/21).

Cuba

15. Secretary General to the Presidency Jose Antonio Viera-Gallo clarified press reports that he had invited Cuban President Raul Castro to visit Chile. Viera-Gallo said he had only had an "informal" conversation with Castro and that the Foreign Ministry is responsible for issuing official invitations (La Nacion, government-owned, editorially independent, 7/21).

U.S.-Related News

16. Chilean Navy personnel and of the universities of Concepcion and Arturo Pratt recovered off the coast of Iquique an automated "Seaglider" submarine owned by the College of Oceanic and

Atmospheric Sciences and Oregon State University, which was malfunctioning. The submarine is equipped to measure the ocean's temperature, chlorophyll and oxygen levels, and other elements related to global warming (La Tercera, 7/18).

URBAN